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Honister Slate Mine, a renowned landmark in the Lake District, blends the thrill of outdoor pursuits with rich history. Serving as a hub of adrenaline-fueled activities amidst a breathtaking landscape, visitors once again can experience the thrill of a 30-meter free fall experience as part of the infamous Adrenaline Pass. This also consists of the Climb the Mine adventure and Infinity Bridge, the longest high wire in Europe. The only one of its kind in the UK, the reopening of the Adrenaline Pass allows venturers to gain a true sense of accomplishment.

Not only standing for its outdoor adventures but also centuries of slate mine history and heritage, Honister Slate Mine is thrilled to announce the continuation of its exciting initiative: Kids Go Free Mine Tours. This initiative aims to inspire the younger generations' curiosity and serve as a gateway into Honister's rich heritage.

The Kids Go Free Mine Tour transports families into the depths of the mine, led by experienced tour guides who will unravel the history and secrets of the historic site. Children will be transported back to a fascinating era when local miners laboured tirelessly to extract slate.

From mornings to evenings, Honister Slate Mine is inclusive to everyone with a recently refurbished pub The Yew Tree serving food from April 1st. As well as a pub, handmade slate products that maintain local craftsmanship are sold from the onsite shop. Families interested in booking a tour or the Adrenaline Pass can visit the Honister Slate Mine website or contact the mine directly for more information.



Meet Cumbria's favourite 'son'

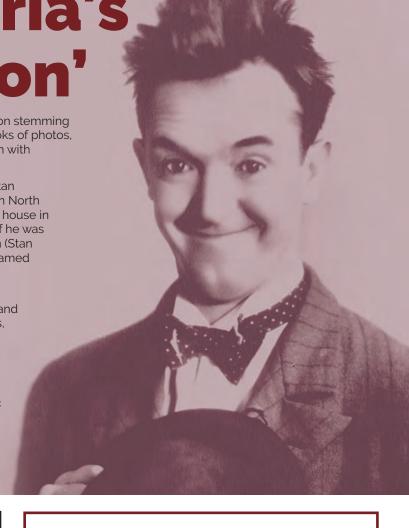
The Laurel and Hardy Museum started life as one man's collection stemming from his lifelong love of 'the boys'. Starting out as a few scrapbooks of photos, Bill Cubin's collection grew over time until it filled one small room with pictures covering all the walls and even the ceiling.

As the collection grew, Bill researched more about the lives of Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy and found that Stan had not been born in North Shields, as was widely thought at the time, but his grandparent's house in Ulverston. In 1976, as mayor of the town, Bill uncovered the proof he was looking for, a birth certificate stating that Arthur Stanley Jefferson (Stan changed his name in 1931) was born in Foundry Cottages, now named Argyll Street.

Explore a treasure trove of memorabilia, from vintage posters to original costumes, providing a fascinating glimpse into the lives and careers of these legendary performers. Admire rare photographs, film props, and personal belongings that offer insights into their remarkable journey from vaudeville to Hollywood stardom.

Visitors of all ages can enjoy interactive exhibits, screenings of classic films, and even a replica of the pair's famous Hollywood apartment. Whether you're a lifelong fan or new to their comedic genius, the Laurel and Hardy Museum is a delightful destination that celebrates the enduring legacy of two comedic icons.

For more information visit www.laurel-and-hardy.co.uk







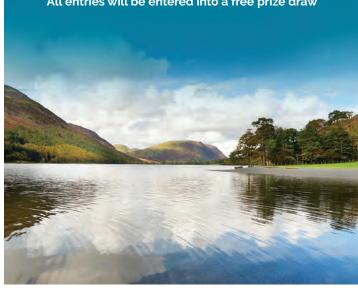
TOURISM AWARDS

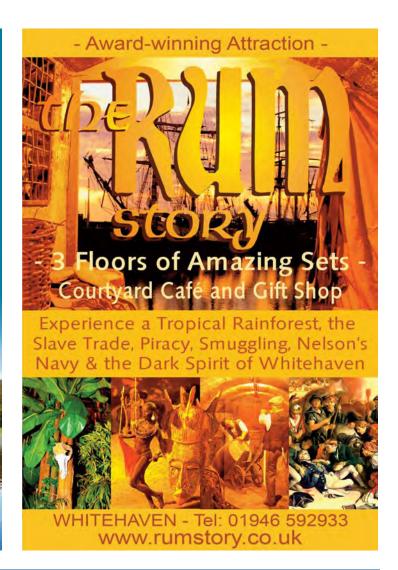
Every year Going Places awards attractions and businesses special recognition for those who have provided an excellent experience, whether it be for quality of attraction, an overall experience, friendliness of welcome, cleanliness, attention to detail, children's facilities etc.

If you would like to nominate an attraction or business you have visited from the advertisers in this paper please send your nomination and your name and address to:

> Going Places, 28 Hastings Road, Nantwich. Cheshire CW5 6GL

All entries will be entered into a free prize draw







Discover the story of Cumbria

Come and see what you can discover at The Beacon Museum. With four floors of family-friendly galleries and exhibitions, there really is something for everyone! Located between Whitehaven's mines and harbour, The Beacon Museum tells the story of historic Cumberland, an area set amongst the Lake District's dramatic mountain and coastal landscapes.

Make the most of the stunning view and use the powerful telescopes, object displays, and our digital interactives to find out about the town and harbour of Whitehaven, its development and geology.

Discover the story of how West Cumbria supported the war effort, and afterwards how new technology was pioneered right here to give the UK a nuclear deterrent.

Learn how Cumberland evolved through time and the development of Whitehaven from a small fishing hamlet to one of the most important ports in the country.

Grab your lamp and pick axe and go 'down pit' in our virtual reality mine experience.

Once you've explored the museum, why not visit the fabulous Howling Wolf artisan café on our Ground Floor? Serving coffee, freshly made cakes and delicious meals Howling Wolf is the perfect place to relax with friends and family.

For more information visit www.thebeacon-whitehaven.co.uk

Upcoming exhibitions:

27 April 2024-23 June 2024

Second Thoughts: A community exhibition brought to you by local textile group Fabricate. View a collection of fibre artworks made from recycled materials.

27 April 2024- 13 July 2024

May the Toys be With You: The force is strong at The Beacon Museum! From a galaxy far, far away comes an absolute must-see exhibition of one of the UK's finest collections of vintage Star Wars toys and original cinema posters.

6 July 2024 - 1 September 2024

The World of Peter RabbitTM Storytime Trail: A walkthrough experience where visitors will be able to immerse themselves in The Tale of Peter Rabbit, plus all the mayhem and mischief of Peter and his friends.

20 July 2024 - 13 October 2024

Seaside: Grab your bucket and spade and celebrate all things seaside brought to you by the Beacon Team!

21 September 2024-January 2025

Fabric to Fashion: Uncovering the stories of local manufacturers Edgards, Kangol, Millers and Sekers, their role in the community and how they exported their work around the world.

26 October 2024-26 January 2025

Wildlife Photographer of the Year: in collaboration with the Natural History Museum, we bring you the world's best nature photography.



THE BEACON MUSEUM

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A thrilling adventure

Embark on a thrilling adventure through time at Stump Cross Caverns' fossil hunting events. These experiences offer a fascinating glimpse into Earth's ancient past. Led by Mark Kemp, widely recognised as 'The Yorkshire Fossil Hunter', visitors descend into the depths of the caverns armed with tools and curiosity.

Exploring the labyrinthine chambers, participants uncover a treasure trove of fossils, from intricately preserved ammonites to the remnants of long-extinct creatures. Each discovery holds a piece of history, shedding light on the evolution of life millions of years ago.

Beyond the excitement of fossil hunting, these events provide valuable insights into paleontology and geology. Participants learn about the processes that shape our planet and gain a deeper appreciation for the wonders of the natural world.

Stump Cross Caverns' fossil hunting events are not only educational but also a thrilling adventure for the whole family, fostering a sense of wonder and curiosity that lasts long after the fossils are unearthed.

For more information visit www.stumpcrosscaverns.co.uk

All memories great and small

James Alfred Wight, who wrote under the pseudonym of James Herriot, became one of the most popular writers of the twentieth century.

He was born in 1916, in Sunderland and at the age of 23, he qualified as a veterinary surgeon at Glasgow Veterinary College. In 1940, he took a brief job at a veterinary practice in Sunderland, but moved in July to work in a rural practice in the town of Thirsk, Yorkshire, close to the Yorkshire Dales and North York Moors, where he was to remain for the rest of his life.

In 1966 (at the age of 50), he began writing, and after several rejected stories on other subjects like football, he turned to what he knew best. His books, a series of stories based on his experiences as a young veterinary surgeon working

among the farming community of North Yorkshire, sold in their millions throughout the world. Their great success spawned two feature films followed by a television series, All Creatures Great and Small, which enjoyed global success in the late 1970s and early 80s.

Alfred Wight died in 1995 but his books still sell, the television series is still played throughout the world, and thousands of visitors continue to flock to The World of James Herriot Museum, which was established in 1999 in his hometown of Thirsk, North Yorkshire.

For more information about the museum visit **www.worldofjamesherriot.com**



01845 524234 • www.worldofjamesherriot.com World of James Herriot Ltd, 23 Kirkgate, Thirsk, North Yorkshire, YO7 1PL

Historic railway stations and spectacular Yorkshire scenery



Having lost its passenger services in 1954, and almost half its route mileage by the early 1960s, the Railway in Wensleydale survived until 1992 by carrying limestone to the smelters on Teesside.

When that traffic finished, the MOD decided to use the line for the occasional transport of military vehicles, something which continues to this day, and this kept the line alive long enough for the Wensleydale Railway Association (formed in 1990) to build support and eventually form a company to take a 100 year lease on the 22 miles of line from Northallerton to Redmire.

The Railway is run largely by volunteers, supported by a small paid staff, and anyone can help by becoming a member of the Wensleydale Railway Association Trust.

For more information visit www.wensleydalerail.com







Visit the famous Theakston brewery in Masham and see the operation of one of the most iconic working breweries in the country. Famed as the home of one of the world's most famous beers, Theakston Old Peculier. A warm welcome awaits.



101765 684333 info@theakstons.co.uk

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A continuing tradition

Theakston have employed coopers since the founding of the company in 1827 and today, Theakston Old Peculier in hand crafted oak casks is regularly ordered by licensees and made available to them across the north of the country. Theakston are very proud of their coopering tradition and to be able to continue the history of coopering, being one of the last remaining breweries in the UK to still have an in-house cooperage.

For many hundreds of years before metal casks were invented, wooden casks were the only means by which not just liquids but also foodstuffs were transported, not least within the brewing industry. But such has been the success of the introduction of the metal version that very few brewers today still retain a cooper. The reason for this is that to make an oak cask of precise content from non-standard widths of oak is a true craft which cannot be replicated by machine. The manufacture of metal casks contrastingly is an automated process.

The latest Cooper, Euan Findlay, came to the brewery as an apprentice craft cooper. After his careful and thorough apprenticeship which lasted four years, he became a fully qualified cooper.

This was marked by the 'Trussing In' Ceremony a very ancient, time honoured ritual that has largely unchanged for hundreds of years and traces its roots back to the 14th century. Euan was 'Trussed In' by fellow Coopers who gathered from across the country, before completing his initiation into the Federation of Coopers.

The ceremony saw Euan inserted into a 54-gallon cask, also known as a Hogshead, and rolled around the brewery yard, before being unceremoniously sacked as an apprentice and immediately re-employed as a 'Journeyman Cooper'; an experience that coopers are grateful to suffer only once in their lifetime!







Mystery, enchantment, and endless exploration



Embark on an adventure like no other in the heart of Yorkshire's scenic landscape. Nestled within the picturesque countryside lies The Forbidden Corner, a whimsical labyrinthine garden that promises mystery, enchantment, and endless exploration.

Step into a world where reality blurs with fantasy, and every corner holds a secret waiting to be unveiled. Meander through winding pathways adorned with vibrant flora, where each turn leads to a new discovery. Marvel at the intricately carved statues, hidden follies, and enchanting water features that adorn this mystical garden.

Challenge your senses as you navigate through twisting tunnels, secret passageways, and deceptive dead ends. Encounter quirky sculptures, optical illusions, and mind-bending puzzles that will keep you guessing at every turn. The Forbidden Corner is a playground for the imagination, where the ordinary transforms into the extraordinary.

Delight in the thrill of uncertainty as you wander through this beguiling maze, never knowing what lies beyond the next doorway. Whether you're exploring with family, friends, or on a solo adventure, The Forbidden Corner offers an unforgettable experience for all ages.

After your journey through this captivating realm, relax and unwind in the charming café, where you can enjoy freshly prepared meals made from locally sourced ingredients. Reflect on your adventures amidst the serene surroundings, and perhaps begin planning your next visit to uncover more of The Forbidden Corner's secrets.

For more information visit www.theforbiddencorner.co.uk



goingplacesuk.com 🚹 😉

Discovering the Yorkshire Dales: a journey through timeless beauty

Nestled in the picturesque landscapes of Northern England lies a region of unparalleled beauty and tranquility - the Yorkshire Dales. Spanning over 680 square miles, this captivating expanse of rolling hills, rugged moors, and quaint villages has long been celebrated as one of the UK's most enchanting destinations. From its timeless beauty to its rich cultural heritage, the Yorkshire Dales offers visitors an unforgettable journey through a landscape shaped by centuries of history and natural forces.

A Tapestry of Natural Wonders

At the heart of the Yorkshire Dales National Park lies a tapestry of natural wonders waiting to be discovered. Limestone cliffs, carved by ancient glaciers and sculpted by the elements, rise majestically above verdant valleys and meandering rivers. The iconic Three Peaks - Pen-y-ghent, Ingleborough, and Whernside - tower over the landscape, offering breathtaking vistas and challenging hikes for adventurous souls.

Water, too, plays a central role in the Dales' allure. Crystal-clear rivers wind their way through the countryside, their banks lined with lush vegetation and shaded woodlands. Aysgarth Falls, immortalized in literature and film, cascades over a series of limestone steps, while Gordale Scar beckons intrepid explorers with its towering cliffs and hidden waterfalls. For those seeking serenity, the tranquil waters of Malham Tarn provide a peaceful retreat, perfect for picnics, birdwatching, and quiet contemplation.

A Journey Through Time

Steeped in history and heritage, the Yorkshire Dales is a treasure trove of archaeological sites, ancient ruins, and historic landmarks. From the imposing ruins of Bolton Abbey to the mysterious stone circles of Swaledale, the landscape is dotted with reminders of the region's rich past. Roman roads crisscross the countryside, while medieval castles stand as silent sentinels against the backdrop of the dales.

Visitors can step back in time with a visit to one of the Dales' many charming villages, where centuries-old cottages, cobblestone streets, and traditional pubs evoke a sense of nostalgia and romance. The market towns of Skipton, Hawes, and Richmond buzz with activity as locals and visitors alike gather to browse bustling markets, sample local delicacies, and soak up the atmosphere of rural life.

A Haven for Outdoor Enthusiasts

For outdoor enthusiasts, the Yorkshire Dales offers a playground of adventure waiting to be explored. Hiking, cycling, and climbing are popular pursuits, with a network of well-marked trails and scenic routes catering to all skill levels. The Yorkshire Dales Cycleway winds its way through stunning landscapes and charming villages, while the Pennine Way offers a challenging trek across the rugged moors and hillsides.

Rock climbers flock to the limestone cliffs of Malham Cove and Kilnsey Crag, where steep faces and challenging routes test their skills and nerve. Anglers cast their lines into the region's rivers and streams, hoping to reel in a prized catch of trout or grayling. And for those seeking a more leisurely pace, the Dales' network of bridleways and country lanes provide endless opportunities for horseback riding and leisurely strolls.

Seasons of Splendor

In every season, the Yorkshire Dales reveals a different side of its natural beauty. Spring brings a burst of color as wildflowers carpet the hillsides, while summer sees the landscape come alive with the sound of birdsong and buzzing insects. Autumn paints the countryside in a riot of reds, oranges, and golds, as the leaves of beech and oak trees turn to flame. And in winter, when the dales are blanketed in snow, the landscape takes on a magical quality, perfect for winter walks and cozy nights by the fire.

A Timeless Escape

Whether you're seeking adventure, relaxation, or simply a chance to reconnect with nature, the Yorkshire Dales offers an unforgettable escape into the heart of England's countryside. With its timeless beauty, rich heritage, and warm hospitality, it's no wonder that visitors return time and time again to explore all that this magical region has to offer. So come, immerse yourself in the enchanting landscapes and rural charm of the Yorkshire Dales, and discover a world of wonder waiting to be explored.





Elvington 44/45 The Fight For Liberty

The museums' theme for the next year covers not just the 80th anniversary of D-Day but much more besides, including the arrival of two French Squadrons at RAF Elvington just weeks before the Normandy landings anniversary.

As with the Falklands and Cold War themes in recent years, they are focussing on telling stories through the prism of aircraft in the collections and, in this instance, also through the site itself.

There will be new displays, videos and information boards around a Halifax Mk III and a Douglas Dakota, with the latter having been painted with invasion stripes.

Displays will drop into place over the next few weeks, and then museum aims to add more material across the year, in the run up to the anniversary of VE Day in 2025.







Sights, sounds and smells of wartime Britain

Nestled amidst the picturesque landscape of Yorkshire, Eden Camp stands as a living testament to the resilience and spirit of wartime Britain. Originally constructed as a prisoner-of-war camp during World War II, this historic site has been transformed into a captivating museum, offering visitors a poignant journey through the tumultuous years of the 20th century.

Upon arrival, visitors are greeted by an authentic reconstruction of a prisoner-of-war compound, complete with barracks and watchtowers, evoking a palpable sense of history. As they explore further, they are transported back in time through immersive exhibits and interactive displays, showcasing life on the home front, the heroism of soldiers, and the innovations of wartime technology.

From the iconic Spitfire to the humble Anderson shelter, Eden Camp's extensive collection of artifacts offers a fascinating insight into the daily realities of wartime existence. Visitors can wander through recreated streetscapes, step inside air raid shelters, and even experience the deafening roar of a Lancaster bomber in the museum's unique audio-visual displays.

But beyond its historical significance, Eden Camp is a place of remembrance and reflection, where visitors of all ages can gain a deeper understanding of the sacrifices made by previous generations. It's a testament to the resilience of the human spirit and a reminder of the enduring legacy of those who lived through one of the most challenging periods in modern history.

For more information or tickets visit www.edencamp.co.uk



NATIONAL COAL MINING MUSEUM

Wakefield, Yorkshire

Unearth the Unexpected!





When one day just isn't enough!

Sundown Adventureland is a family run theme park for the under 10's. As you explore the huge park you'll find singing animals, yodelling goats and amazing rides everywhere.

Hop aboard the Rocky Mountain Railroad for a ride through the Wild West, take the Tractor Ride for a trip around the countryside before talking to the animals at Sundown Farm, or even join Robin Hood's Merry Adventure Ride to meet Robin and his merry men, as they travel through Sherwood Forest.

Then it's onto Crash Landings - our fantastic four storey indoor play area and café, climb and explore the jungle where you may get a surprise from a cheeky monkey or a slippery snake.

If one day just isn't enough then why not book yourself and family into our brand new Wild Acre Village and stay in our beautifully designed, super family friendly lodges.





Gearing up for a new era at West Midlands Safari Park?

West Midlands Safari Park is gearing up for an exhilarating year, filled with exciting additions and events. For seasoned visitors or those planning their first trip, the Park promises that 2024 will offer an array of exhilarating, memorable experiences, including a new ride, exciting events and even a new look!

The award-winning tourist attraction celebrated its 50th anniversary last year, so the Park felt like it was the right time to embark on a rebrand and truly mark the start of a new era. The Park's logo has had a complete revamp, with a new, fun font, vibrant colours and the addition of a giraffe icon, which reflects the attraction's exciting offering of up-close animal experiences.

Alongside the rebrand, the Park has announced there will be a number of new attractions this year, including a new family ride called Jungle Jeeps, extensions to the pedestrianised areas, allowing guests to see cheetahs and African wild dogs on foot for the first time and the play park area has been revamped and is now home to new mascot characters, Eddie and Eliza the explorers.



Additionally, the Park has announced some exciting events for the school holidays, including meeting kids' favourite TV characters during May half term and Roar & Explore: Dino Edition for summer - a month-long dino-tastic event for budding palaeontologists.

There is also the chance to see the latest arrivals - a troop of



Family Tickets for West Midlands Safari Park

We have several family tickets to give away in the West Midlands Safari Park competition. To win one of these tickets simply answer the following questions...

What is the post code of the Safari Park and what is the name of the new family

Winners will be drawn mid July and tickets sent to you direct from the park itself.

Email your answer and contact details, including the name of town you are from, and include the words West Midlands Safari Park in the subject line to:

goingplaces.studio@gmail.com

Discover Dudley

Visitors to the borough of Dudley will be delighted by the variety of things to see and do.

The Red House Glass Cone stands 100ft tall in the Stourbridge Glass Quarter, home to glassmaking for over 400 years. Bespoke artisan craft studios, exhibitions, coffee house and a retail shop with free admission and free car parking. Although the inside of the Cone is currently closed for essential maintenance, there is still plenty to see. We are currently redeveloping our hot glass studio and plan to have live glass blowing demonstrations running very soon. Please check our website or social media for up-to-date information.

Ruskin Glass Centre is home to past greats of the glass industry. Learn about the history of glass making in the area. Artisans operate independent craft studios and there is an organic café.

Stourbridge Glass Museum home to the globally significant Stourbridge Glass Collection, complemented by engaging interactive digital displays. The Museum runs a busy events programme, featuring talks and exhibitions on the topic of glassmaking and much more.

The Lace Guild situated in the heart of the Glass Quarter, houses a large collection of lace items and artefacts depicting the fascinating history of this heritage craft.

Himley Hall & Park offers an 'Indulgent Afternoon Tea'. Host to events, activities and walks throughout the year.

At **Dudley Museum at the Archives** follow Dudley's story from pre-history to the present day. As well as the fantastic selection of fossils and geology displays collections include Dudley Castle Finds and a Dudley Local Heroes gallery with a small collection of Duncan Edwards memorabilia. Artwork from the collection includes Dudley landscapes. The Museum is also the headquarters of the Black Country Global Geopark. Events and activities throughout the year are available. Admission is free and there is free car parking.

Dudley Zoo and Castle is home to hundreds of exotic and endangered animals. You will find the 11th century motte and bailey castle.

Experience sights, sounds, smells, and tastes of the Black Country as you explore shops, houses and industrial workshops rebuilt in the canal side villages at the **Black Country Living Museum**.

Discover the art of legging inside the fantastic **Dudley Canal & Limestone Mines**. Experience an underground 45-minute skipper guided tour.

Our 16 miles of navigable canals are ideal for walking, cycling and fishing. Or perhaps you'll take in a show at one of our borough halls.

Visit www.discoverdudley.org.uk to find out more.





WENSLEYDALE RAILWAY



Wensleydale Railway - see advert on page 7

GOING PLACES UK

